

HR 2336

Sunshine in Litigation Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Law

Introduced: May 14, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. (Jun 26, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/2336>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10]

Party: Democratic • **State:** NY • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-35]	D · TX		Jul 28, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 26, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Law

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Sunshine in Litigation Act of 2015

Amends the federal judicial code to prohibit a court, in any civil action in which the pleadings state facts relevant to the protection of public health or safety, from entering an order restricting the disclosure of information obtained through discovery, approving a settlement agreement that would restrict such disclosure, or restricting access to court records, unless in connection with such order the court has first made independent findings of fact that: (1) the order would not restrict the disclosure of information relevant to the protection of public health or safety; or (2) the public interest in the disclosure of past, present, or potential health or safety hazards is outweighed by a specific and substantial interest in maintaining the confidentiality of the information, and the requested protective order is no broader than necessary to protect the confidentiality interest asserted.

Prohibits a court from: (1) enforcing any provision of an agreement between or among parties to the civil action, or an order entered under this Act, that restricts a party from disclosing information to any federal or state agency with authority to enforce laws regulating an activity relating to such information; or (2) enforcing any provision of a settlement agreement between or among parties to such civil action that prohibits a party from disclosing that a settlement was reached or the terms of the settlement (excluding any money paid) that involve matters relevant to the protection of public health or safety, or from discussing matters relevant to the protection of public health or safety involved in such civil action. Excepts from this enforcement prohibition (thus allowing enforcement of) a settlement agreement provision about which the court finds that the public interest in the disclosure of past, present, or potential public health or safety hazards is outweighed by a specific and substantial interest in maintaining the confidentiality of the information in question, and the requested protective order is no broader than necessary to protect the confidentiality interest asserted.

Creates a rebuttable presumption that the interest in protecting personally identifiable information of an individual outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Declares that nothing in this Act shall be construed to permit, require, or authorize the disclosure of classified information, as defined under the Classified Information Procedures Act.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 26, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
- **May 14, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **May 14, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.